

Sacred Mandala Tarot Review

By Sandra Geddes

The Sacred Mandala Tarot is the latest deck from artist and reader Heather Mendel. It calls on the geometric imagery of mandalas, considered sacred by some, to add an extra spiritual layer to the cards. After the success of her Sacred Mandala Lenormand , Heather decided to go ahead with this deck as her next project, calling it the 'perfect next step' in her own spiritual and creative journey.



There are 80 cards in the deck. Heather chose to include two Strength cards and Two Justice cards, one each for the 8 and 11 positions. This is so that readers can choose their own preferences which position those cards take. I thought that was a very nice touch.

The cards are borderless with a black background and minimalist illustrations. Heather explains that this is because she wanted to honour the place of mystery we intuit from as well as

allowing the expressions and body language of the characters to speak to the reader. She has also chosen to reflect our multicultural society in the

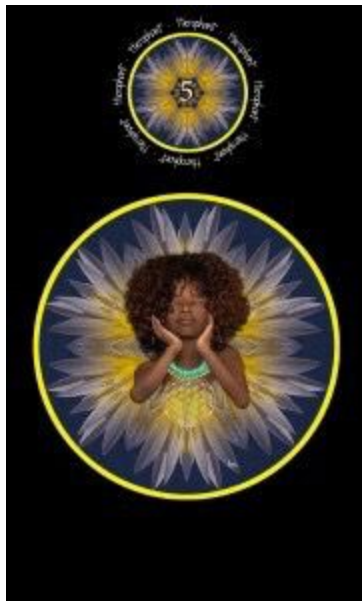
figures depicted throughout the cards.

The back of the cards features Metatron's Cube, a design of 13 interconnected circles, over the tree of life. The suits each have their own geometric pattern assigned. Skyline (moon, mountain, clouds) is assigned to Swords, Fire for Wands, Waterfall for Cups and Tree for Coins. Each card features it's number and name, or suit name, around the mandala above the image.



For ease of telling how many Majors and Minors are in a spread at a glance, the Major cards have a circular frame and the Minors a rectangular one. The Court cards are named Student, Seeker, Seer and Sage in addition to, as opposed to, the more traditional names of Page, Knight, Queen and King. I really like the perspective of the courts that these names invoke.

When I asked Heather which are her favourite cards in the deck she said the Queen of Coins and The Hierophant as these came together most seamlessly for her.



My personal favourite is the Star with its feeling of understated peace.

The card stock is nice and sturdy, always a big plus for me. I am unable to comment on the packaging as I received my copy of the deck before release when the box was yet to be finalised. The cards do however come in an attractive green organza storage bag.

Along with the deck comes an A5 200 page companion book with a foreword by Carrie Paris.

The book includes an

introduction to the subject of the mandala before going through each card. Each card entry includes an individual mantra, keywords, mandala description, ideas for mindful manifestation and more as well as a large black and white image of the card.

Heather says on the book

“Instead of an LWB, I wrote The Sacred Mandala Tarot: mystery, mindfulness and manifestation. I wanted to follow through with my belief that the future is not prescribed, and that by looking carefully at the present, and examining our beliefs, expectations and thoughts, we can make the most informed decisions possible with every choice we make. The theme of the book is the



practise of mindfulness, influenced by the work of Tolle and Chopra, and offers a variation on the suit of Swords and their double-edge nature as an opportunity to balance 'thinking' and 'being.'”

At the end of the book there are several spreads for various life areas. I particularly enjoyed the Lighting my way: Dream to reality spread.

This deck strikes me as not so much one to read for others, but for our own soul exploration and bringing desired change to our lives. Definitely one for the more spiritually minded reader.

About the Author

Heather Mendel describes herself as a South-African born, mystic, author, artist and mystic whose creative endeavours over the past 35 years have been aimed at living mindfully and developing an appreciation of the intuitive gifts with which we are blessed.

She is a trained speech and hearing therapist. As a calligraphic designer she began creating 'word paintings' of a spiritual nature after her move to America in 1986. She has continued to try to find ways to bring words and images together in spiritually uplifting ways at her studio A World of Art. She previously created the Syzgy Oracle and the Sacred Mandala Lenormand. She has a long term interest in spirituality and women's empowerment.

At a glance

No. Cards: 80

No. of Majors: 0-22

No. of Minors: 0-10

Courts: Student, Seeker, Seer and Sage.

Artist: Heather Mendel

Publisher: A World of Art

Strength : 8 and 11

Fool: 0

Borderless: Yes

Corners: Rounded

Packaging: N/A

Size: Standard

For ordering details please go to www.sacredfemininekabbalah.com

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